Mountain Weather Forecast

Snowdonia National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Friday 21 May 2021 until 23:59 on Saturday 22 May 2021

Forecast Issued on Thursday 20 May 2021 at 14:50

Confidence: Very high for an unseasonably very windy and wet spell of weather at first and for conditions to remain unsettled through the weekend and into the first part of next week. Moderate confidence for the details and timings of the band of rain on Sunday. Moderate for a gradual settling down in the weather from the middle of next week with drier conditions – though still on the cool side for May.

Headline for Friday 21 May 2021: Very wet and windy again with persistent heavy rain through the morning. Wind and rain slowly easing later.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 21 May 2021

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy Snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
Low Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Low Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
High Likelihood

Strong sunlight
Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy rain showers (night)	Heavy rain showers (night)	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Heavy rain showers	Heavy rain showers	Light rain	Light rain
Precipitation probability							
>95%	>95%	>95%	90%	80%	70%	80%	70%

Forecast for Friday 21 May 2021

Weather: Severe gales on the summits gradually easing a little through the early hours but heavy and persistent rain continuing. Remaining very wet through the morning hours but winds continuing to slowly abate, although remaining strong. The rain may become somewhat more intermittent through the afternoon, with perhaps some brief bursts of sunshine, however some heavy bursts of rain and drizzle remain likely for the rest of the day.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Generally 20% or less, locally 30% in the east during the morning.

Visibility: Persistent and widespread cloud will cover ground above 500-700m for most of the day, with occasional periods as low as 350m on windward facing slopes. This will give very poor visibilities at higher levels and navigation on unfamiliar and featureless terrain will be very challenging. Even at lower levels, rain will reduce visibilities to moderate at best. Some breaks in the cloud to 800m are possible in the east, especially during the morning, however these will be fleeting and most summits will remain shrouded in cloud all day.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Forecast for Friday 21 May 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	53/67 SW	48/61 SW	37/46 SW	29/37 W	26/33 NW	26/34 NW	29/38 NW	30/39 N	25/33 N
600	38/51 SW	35/47 SW	26/36 SW	22/30 W	20/27 NW	20/28 NW	22/30 NW	22/30 N	18/25 N
300	24/44 SW	23/41 SW	18/32 W	16/27 W	15/25 NW	15/25 NW	15/27 NW	15/27 N	13/23 N
Valley	23/41 SW	22/40 SW	18/31 W	16/28 W	15/26 NW	15/26 NW	16/29 NW	16/29 N	14/25 N

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	5/-3	4/-4	5/-2	5/-0	5/-0	5/-1	4/-2	3/-4	2/-5
600	6/0	6/-0	7/2	7/2	7/3	7/2	6/1	5/-0	4/-1
300	8/4	8/4	8/4	9/5	9/6	9/5	8/5	7/3	6/2
Valley	10/6	9/5	9/6	10/6	10/7	10/7	9/6	8/5	7/4
Freezing Level*	1600m	1700m	1700m	1700m	1700m	1600m	1600m	1400m	1200m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Ferocious gusts through the morning will make walking arduous and gusts in excess of 70 mph are likely on ridges and summits first thing in the day. After a very wet Thursday, there will be significant water run-off on most paths and wet rock surfaces will give slippery conditions, particularly hazardous on steep routes. Mountain streams will be in spate and a significant wind chill will make it feel like it is well below freezing on the summits.

Forecast for Saturday 22 May 2021

Weather: Cloudy with occasional showers through the early hours, these falling as hail and snow at times over the highest summits as the freezing level drops. Remaining showery through the day but the showers becoming more isolated and increasingly restricted to the Snowdon Range by the afternoon. Some cloud breaks forming, allowing brief sunny spells, especially in southern and eastern areas. Feeling unseasonably cold over the summits and ridges with a significant wind chill.

Maximum wind: Northwesterly 15-25 mph gusting 30 mph at times and locally 35 mph in the Snowdon Range.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 30% rising to 70% by midday.

Visibility: Periods of cloud above 600-700m at first, becoming occasional patches above 800m by the afternoon with most summits clearing at times. Occasionally poor visibility in the cloud and very poor during hail and snow showers. Otherwise, excellent visibilities developing with superb air clarity making distant hills and landmarks easy to view.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 5 Celsius rising to plus 13 Celsius.
At 800m: Around freezing, rising to plus 2 Celsius.
Freezing level: 800m, rising to around 1000m.

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Ground Conditions Supplement
Please see - https://www.eryri.llyw.cymru/visiting/walking/ground-conditions
Issued at: 1450 on Thu 20 May 2021

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